



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Western fun for the entire family at Will Rogers State Historic Park

Old West Returns to Will Rogers Ranch

Ranch Jubilee Set for July 30th – Public Invited

PACIFIC PALISADES – “Every man has wanted to be a cowboy,” said Will Rogers years ago. “Why play Wall Street and die young when you can play cowboy and never die?”

When you were a kid, did you ever think for a moment how much fun it would be to climb on a horse and ride off the way cowboys did in the movies? Lots have. Will Rogers must have thought it, because he went out and did it. He is one of America’s folk hero cowboys. As an entertainer, philosopher, movie and Broadway star, he helped create the fond memories we have today of those by-gone days of western adventure.

So it is fitting that a living history slice of those by-gone days returns to the ranch, Will Rogers State Historic Park, for the enjoyment of the public. So mark your calendars!!

*Ranch Jubilee
Saturday, July 30 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Will Rogers State Historic Park
1501 Will Rogers State Park Road in Pacific Palisades*

"This is the kind of event that makes the wonderful history of this man and his home come alive," said State Parks' Director Ruth Coleman. "If we were to turn back the clock, we would probably see events very similar to this, with people enjoying western traditions at their best."

The Ranch Jubilee will feature western fun for the entire family, including trick roping, horse and wagon rides, pony rides for children, live music, and a rare opportunity to see real cowboys working cattle. There is free vehicle parking for the event with complimentary shuttle service from the off-site event parking location at Paul Revere Middle School. There will be

barbeque, tamales, beef jerky, and beverages for sale at the event. The park is approximately 30 minutes from downtown Los Angeles.

The jubilee will include:

Welcoming remarks from June Lockhart, Ambassador to California State Parks

Master of Ceremonies Robert Basgall, Will Rogers Impersonator

Santa Monica Police Department Mounted Patrol

Ramon Becerra, Trick Rider and Roper

Patty Mayer, Dressage Demonstration

Felix Lopez and the Broken Horn Ropers

Pat Puckett, Trick Roper

Dave Thornberry, Trick Roper

Live Music by The Drew Davis Band

There will also be a blacksmith demonstrating how to shoe a horse, as well as an area to learn cattle roping, trick roping, and quick-draw.

Will Rogers State Historic Park was the working ranch of humorist Will Rogers. In the early 1930s, Will Rogers was the most popular and highest paid actor in Hollywood. From his start in vaudeville with a trick roping act, he rose to world-wide fame as a columnist, philosopher, radio personality, and movie star.

The ranch became the place where Will Rogers could relax with his family and friends, pursuing his favorite pastimes of riding and roping. The Will Rogers Ranch consists of a 31-room ranch house, historic stable, corrals, riding ring, roping arena, polo field, golf course, and hiking trails. The ranch became a state park in 1944.

Will Rogers State Historic Park is undergoing a major restoration of the ranch house and landscape. With this special event, California State Parks looks to increase the public's awareness of the park throughout the southern California region. The Will Rogers Ranch Jubilee will be a great day of western fun.

For more information on the event contact Jennifer Ruffolo at California State Parks at (916) 651-9523.

Visit California State Parks on-line at www.parks.ca.gov

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